



# Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

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**Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)  
Joint Environment and Natural Resources and Land Use Committee  
Minutes  
Thursday, June 2, 2016**

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)  
Lake County Conference Room  
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

- Members Present:** Jack Darin – Illinois Sierra Club, Jackie Forbes – Kane County Division of Transportation, Danielle Gallet – Metropolitan Planning Council, Deb Stone – Cook County Department of Environmental Control, Mike Warner – Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Joe Schuessler – MWRD, Sean Wiedel – Chicago Department of Transportation, Moira Zellner – University of Illinois-Chicago (via phone)
- Members Absent:** Lynn Boerman – IDNR, Ed Collins – McHenry County Conservation District, Martha Dooley – Village of Schaumburg, Jon Grosshans – U.S. EPA, Pete Harmet – IDOT, Suzanne Malec-McKenna – Chicago Wilderness, Stacy Meyers – Openlands, Wallace Van Buren – IAWA
- Staff Present:** Nora Beck (staff liaison for ENR), Kate Evasic, Kristin Ihnchak, Jason Navota, Lindsay Hollander, Alex Beata, Brian Daly, Carly Dutkiewicz, Daniel Mihalov, Taylor LaFave, Anthony Cefali, Jesse Elam
- Others Present:** Mark Wagstaff, Steve Simmons.

## 1.0 Call to Order

Sean Wiedel called the meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m.

## 2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

- Regional Priorities Report. ENR feedback is request on this interim deliverable of ON TO 2050 between June 7 - June 21 before it is released for public comment on June 29.
- ON TO 2050 Big Ideas Forum. Join and the Chicago Community Trust kick off the ON TO 2050 Big Ideas Forum, June 20 at 10 am -12 pm, details [here](#).
- Climate resilience APA session. Chicago Metro Section of the American Planning Association will host "Building Community Resilience to Climate Change" on Thursday, June 23, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. here at CMAP's offices. RSVP to [cms@ilapa.org](mailto:cms@ilapa.org) if you plan to attend

- Greenways and Trails Update. CMAP is updating the 2009 Regional Greenways and Trails Plan, a long-range vision for a network of interconnected existing and planned regional trails in northeastern Illinois. Staff is reviewing implementation status of trails from the 2009 plan, as well as local and subregional plans created since 2009, and meeting with County departments of transportation, forest preserve and conservation districts, and subregional councils to develop an updated map that will be presented to the CMAP Transportation Committee for approval in September 2016.

### 3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 5 meeting was made by Mike Werner, seconded by Jackie Forbes, and with all in favor, carried.

### 5.0 ON TO 2050: Transportation System Funding Concepts Strategy Paper – Lindsay Hollander, CMAP Staff

This draft strategy paper reviews major components of the current Financial Plan for Transportation and recommends new strategies, areas of research, and opportunities for greater specificity in ON TO 2050. Hollander provided an overview of the draft strategy paper, available [here](#). Committee members discussed the following points:

- Long term maintenance concerns of public-private partnerships. Need to include provisions for longer term maintenance so that when the project is eventually turned back over to the government it is in good condition. Staff discussed how these requirements are often included in performance benchmarking.
- Status of state legislation on public-private partnerships. Current proposal would bring PPP eligibility to the local level, but it is not out of committee.
- Motor Fuel Tax revenues. Forecasted to decrease over time because of two main factors – it's not indexed to inflation and increasing fuel efficiency. Even if we index to inflation, MFT revenue will rise, but not enough to cover costs and that's why CMAP is recommending a mileage-based user fee, specifically a vehicle-miles traveled fee. Earlier this year, CMAP took a neutral position on the VMT fee as the agency had yet to explore this issue. Other states are exploring this and could lay the groundwork for adoption in Illinois.
- Diesel fuel tax increase. Currently the tax on this fuel type is slightly higher; increasing it could bring a dedicated source of funds for freight improvements.

CMAP staff requested feedback on the full paper by June 10.

### 6.0 ON TO 2050: Regionally Significant Projects Update – Jesse Elam, CMAP Staff

CMAP's Transportation Committee and governing boards have been discussing what types of projects to include in the plan. Staff met with implementers to determine how many projects within their jurisdiction would meet the proposed thresholds. Based on the results, staff recommends an adjustment to the thresholds, as summarized in this [memo](#). In addition to clarifying questions about what types of projects would be impacted by this change, committee members discussed various aspects of the proposal:

- Bridges. CMAP does not evaluate the projects based on the performance of the network, but encourages implementers to submit those projects.

- VMT and transit revenues. Capital investment will be required to implement aspects of the transportation funding options. Those types of expenditures would be handled outside of this list and in programmatic line items.

The ENR committee has previously provided feedback on the environmental evaluation of the regionally significant projects; CMAP staff will come back later in the year to provide an update on that process.

#### 7.0 **ON TO 2050: Place-based Approach: Universe of Layers – Kristin Ihnchak, CMAP Staff**

At the January ENR meeting, CMAP staff introduced the “place-based approach,” and more specifically a layers approach, as a framework for catering the content of a regional plan to local (and other) partners through more spatially specific recommendations. Ihnchak provided an overview of the layers approach, as summarized in this [memo](#), and Beck described a proposed set of layers relating to the environment and natural resources. Committee members had a number of suggested resources and approaches:

- Consensus building, self-identification, and engagement. Group discussed the value of place types, where a community could select a place type that matches their view of themselves, and how it could provide a gateway into the rest of the plan content. For example, a community might identify themselves as a rural hamlet or a manufacturing center. While the layers approach, which is based on data connected to specific policies within the plan, will not be using placetypes, community engagement is an important component of the place-based approach.
- Building support. Recommendation to roll out the very factual layers first to build support for the overall concept. Some of the layers will involve more consensus building.
- Green infrastructure restoration. This layer needs a new name as it is referring to non-site scale improvements. Consider nature-based solutions instead of green infrastructure.
- Greenways and trails. The Committee would like to see this included in the environmental list.
- Gap analysis. Can help identify areas where we don’t have enough information
- Energy. California requires utilities to share data; they could then map out solar capacity of the existing grid (which is happening in Chicago via CCT and CNT)
- Building footprint data, need it for the rest of the city.

#### 8.0 **ON TO 2050: Conservation Areas Pilot Layer – Brian Daly, CMAP Staff**

At the March ENR meeting, CMAP staff introduced two pilot layers – conservation areas and high priority reinvestment areas – that are being developed as examples for the layers approach. Daly provided an update on the creation of the conservation areas layer.

Committee members discussed the following points:

- Lake County’s Wetland restoration and preservation plan. Helps to prioritize restoration and acquisition efforts but can also be used by developers and transportation agencies. Can identify opportunities for mitigation in the same watershed.
- Restorable areas are important. Put them together.
- Hackmatack and Liberty Prairie Reserve. Discussed how these large mosaic land complexes could be showed in the conservation areas layer.

**9.0 ON TO 2050: Climate Resilience Strategy Paper – Kristin Ihnchak, CMAP Staff**

This agenda item was not discussed in detail as the meeting ran over. CMAP is accepting feedback on the strategy paper ([draft](#) and [figures](#)) until June 10.

**10.0 Other Business.**

**11.0 Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**12.0 Next Meeting**

The ENR Committee is scheduled to next meet on Thursday, July 7, 2016.

**13.0 Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora Beck (ENR Committee Liaison)

June 8, 2016

DRAFT